

SPORTS

SOVIET ATHLETES WON

The USSR defeated Britain 131-102 in an all-star match at Oxford. The winners' male side won 102-61 and the Soviet women prevailed, 68-41.

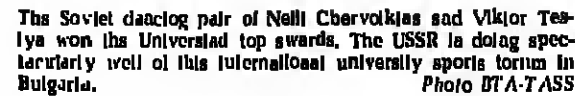
The Soviet pair, consisting of Valery Abramov and Viktor Teslya, won the very popular one-mile race in 3 min 56.6 sec.

TRETYAK MAKES A DECISION...

30-year-old Vladimir Tretyak, called the world's best ice-hockey goalie, has announced his intention to quit competitive sport after the 1984 Winter Olympics. Such a decision has surprised many admirers of this charismatic athlete, who is still going strong. He has been on the Soviet national and the top Soviet team, Central Army Club, for over a decade now. The intention is staggering -- he seems to know in advance the way the puck will move, and very few know how much work that takes.



(L) Alexei (white jersey) beat European cup holders Sverdlovsk (R) Lechko, 3-1, in a national championship game.



The Soviet dancing pair of Nelli Chernobayeva and Viktor Teslya won the Universiade top awards. The USSR is doing spectacularly well at this international university sports forum in Bulgaria.

RUGBY: 'CUP OF FIVE NATIONS' IN PROGRESS

In Dublin Ireland confidently beat France, 22-16, in the annual international rugby tournament. The cup of five nations, and leads the standings with four points from two

games. Defending champions France also have four points, but from three games.

In the same round Wales beat Scotland, 19-15, in Edinburgh. In the previous game Wales drew with England and are now in third place with three points.

In the two remaining rounds on March 5 and 19 Wales will challenge Ireland, England will meet Scotland, France will take on Wales and Ireland will clash with England.

The tournament, one of the most popular in Europe, is now in its eighth decade. Since 1910 France has won 12 such cups, and in 1960, 77 and 81 it won the "Grand Slam" prize for being triumphant in all the matches. Still Wales is the most successful nation with 21 cups to its credit as well as six "Grand Slam" prizes, while the English took 19 and eight respectively.

In 1973 all the five teams polled four points and were declared joint winners, the only such occurrence in the cup's 72-year history.

Boris MIKHAILOV

WHERE ARE THE TOP 'STRIKERS' NOW?

The recent Italian national football championship round produced seven draws, four of them goalless, which forced "La Gazzetta dello Sport" of Milan to make a swift analysis of the performance of various countries of Europe.

It turned out that the highest amount of goals has been netted in the West German Bundesliga:

THE SLIPPERY SNOW OF TARNABY

Thousands of Swedish Alpine skiers traveled to the small town of Tarnaby which is close to the Arctic Circle and has a population of some 2,000, to watch a World Cup special slalom there.

The event was a great crowd drawer, particularly as their renowned luger, Stenmark, had been there.

But Stenmark disappointed onlookers right from his first run. Some nine minutes after setting out he missed a gate on a mound called Ingemarbakken in his honour, and was disqualified. Cup standings leader American Phil Mahre also dropped out. In general, only 17 of the 57 starters survived the first run.

Stenmark was three disqualified for the fourth time in this year's special slalom stages, which is very unusual for him. To be just, however, we should perhaps add that of the 80 special slalom races in the Cup's history he ended up in the top three 63 times.

Slit Stenmark, also hitting from Tarnaby, offered some consolation for the Swedes, coming only 0.5 seconds in two runs behind winner Andreas Wenzel, of Liechtenstein, and Bojan Kri-

zol, of Yugoslavia, who was first. Alexander Zhurov, of the USSR, who made the top ten in the first run, ultimately found a failure.

Now that the Cup is down to a close, five entrants are still hopeful winning it: Phil Mahre with 198 points, Stenmark with 167, Wenzel with 164, and Pirmin Zurbriggen and Peter Luescher (both of Switzerland).

In the special slalom Wenzel with 97 points, has closed the gap dividing him from the leader Stenmark, who has 10 points.



World Cup leader Phil Mahre streaking downhill.

SOVIET TEAM FOR HELSINKI ICE-SKATING PAGEANT

The USSR Figure Skating Federation has named a national squad for the world championship due on March 7-13 in Helsinki.

The team is led by European dancing champions Natalya Beslemeyanova and Andrei Bukin. The other dancing pairs are European silver medalists Olga Volodinskaya and Alexander Svinin and the debutants, junior world champions Yelena Belarova and Alexei Soloviyov coached by the first Olympic dancing champion Lyudmila Pakhomova.

In the pairs the USSR will field the 1982 world and European silver medalists Marina Pestova and Stanislav Lashov, the 1983 European runners-up Yelena Valova and Oleg Vasylyev, and the national championship award winners Veronika Peralina and Marat Akbarov.

Alexander Farleyev and Vladimir Kotin will perform in the men's singles and European No. 2 skater Yelena Voderova and lead-improving Anna Kondrasova, in the women's.

Prize for Nunez

Cuban weightlifter Daniel Nunez was presented the 1982 sportsman of Latin America award in Havana, following an annual sports writers survey by Prensa Latina.



EDITORIAL BOARD

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MOSCOW NEWS

OUTCOME OF SOVIET-JAPANESE TRADE TALKS

More than 250 heads of major Japanese companies and banks were recently in Moscow, the largest ever Japanese trade and economic delegation to have gone abroad.

In the Kremlin, Soviet government head Nikolai Tikhonov stressed, welcoming the delegation which was led by Chairman of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry Shigeo Nagano, that the USSR was ready to boost cooperation on the basis of mutual gain.

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INTERNATIONAL FORUM IN KAMPUCHEA

Phnom Penh. The International forum for peace in South-East Asia has ended its meetings in the Kampuchean capital. For two days, delegates at the forum, which was convened at the initiative of the World Peace Council, discussed various topical problems which remain unsolved in South-East Asia.

In the final statement delegates from various political, youth, trade union, and religious organizations from forty countries express their complete support for the peace initiatives put forward by the Indochinese leaders at their recent summit in Vientiane. These initiatives serve as a basis for transforming South-East Asia into a zone of peace, stability and comprehensive cooperation. The delegates at the forum noted the importance of a constructive dialogue between the ASEAN countries and the Indochinese states for a solution of the problems in the region.



"Down with the new American missiles in Europe!" this was the slogan for the mass protest demonstrations which have been held in many districts of West Berlin.

AMERICAN FINANCE FOR AFGHAN COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES

Kabul. At the press conference here, the National Fatherland Front has disclosed facts which expose American involvement in the undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Over the past five years, American aid to the counter-revolutionaries has reached 218 million dollars, and this year, the American administration has earmarked another 105 million dollars for this purpose.

Using American money, the gangsters kill civilians, women, children and elderly people, as well as patriotically minded religious leaders, activists of the cooperative movement, workers, doctors and teachers. The counter-revolutionaries are inflicting considerable damage on the country's economy.



Three former guerrillas, who now support the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and a Jalalabad mujahid, speak about the counter-revolutionaries' terrorist acts at a press conference in Kabul.

INDIRA GANDHI'S PRESS CONFERENCE

Delhi. Addressing a press conference here, the Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi expressed concern over the deterioration in the international atmosphere.

She said that the 7th Summit of the Non-Aligned Countries which opens on March 7 in Delhi, will focus on efforts to strengthen world-wide peace and security. India is very interested in the discussion of how to curb the arms race, particularly in nuclear weapons.

On the situation around Afghanistan, Mrs. Gandhi said that the government of that country was trying to normalize

the situation in South-West Asia. The Indian stand on this issue is well known, she added. Once the deliveries of modern foreign weapons to the rebels cease, the Afghan government will be able to decide whether or not it requires foreign aid to continue.

Indira Gandhi spoke in detail about the situation in the state of Assam. Answering a question about the complexity of the American special services in the disturbances there, she pointed out that certain external forces are interested in the destabilization of a country like India because it is a republic which wants to be strong and independent.

USSR AND CHINA RESUME CONSULTATIONS

Another round in the Soviet-Chinese political consultations resumes in this country on March 1. Deputy Foreign Minister Can Qichen, a special envoy of the Chinese government, has arrived in Moscow to take part in the consultations. He is accompanied by a group of advisers and experts.

The organizers of the press conference said that the inmates of the camp, who include children and wounded adults, are living under extremely severe conditions. Committee member Faleis Langer, who is a well-known Israeli lawyer, said that one of the prisoners, Marjan al-Jalil, went mad after undergoing a series of interrogations by the Israelis. It was also reported that up to two thousand people from Southern Lebanon—Palestinians and Lebanese—are listed as missing following the Israeli aggression.

USSR HAULS IN THE MEDALS

The USSR did excellently at the Winter Universiade in Sofia with a record tally of 12 gold, 11 silver and seven bronze medals, so all-time high for the event. Czechoslovakia came second and Italy third. This was the eighth Soviet success in a row out of the ten winter Universiades for which they have entered.



The International Trade Centre.

MOSCOW SIGHTS



The Ostankino TV Tower.

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'MAINICHI SHIMBUN' FOR GREATER JAPANESE-SOVIET TRADE

Tokyo. The talks which the Japanese businessmen held in Moscow open up broad prospects for the further development of economic exchanges between the Soviet Union and Japan, says an editorial in the "Mainichi Shimbun" newspaper.

Commenting on the outcome of the recent Soviet-Japanese economic talks, the paper notes that the "economic sanctions" imposed by the United States against the Soviet Union have done Japan a great deal of damage. The West European countries, which have refused to toe Washington's line, have expanded their Soviet trade to a greater extent than Japan has been able to do.

Opposing the introduction of increasing numbers of artificial barriers to trade and economic relations between the two countries, the paper writes: "We are hopeful that the talks in Moscow will lead to the further activation and expansion of Japanese-Soviet economic links. We hope that this will also result in an improvement in the political climate in relations between our two neighboring countries."

DENMARK AND THE COMMON MARKET

Copenhagen. Denmark can stay outside the EEC, and it must do its utmost to withdraw from this limited trade and economic grouping. This was the conclusion reached by delegates attending the All-Danish meeting of representatives of the "popular national movement for Denmark's withdrawal from the EEC" in Odense.

The delegates discussed the economic and social consequences of Denmark's EEC membership as well as questions relating to the revitalization of the

country's withdrawal from the Common Market.

One indication of the worsening economic situation in Denmark is a constantly growing balance-of-payments deficit which last year reached the record sum of 202 thousand million kroner.

Whereas the country only had 22 thousand people out of work ten years ago when it entered the Common Market, now the total number of unemployed in Denmark exceeds 330 thousand.

CANADA UNDER PRESSURE

Toronto. America is pressuring Canada into agreeing to let it in the province of Alberta of the American cruise missiles which Washington is planning to station in Western Europe, "The Globe and Mail" reports.

According to the paper, the United States first began its efforts in this direction under Carter, though they were considerably stepped up under Reagan, who personally raised the issue several times at his talks with Premier Trudeau. The Pentagon wants to try out the cruise missile guidance system in an area whose terrain and climate resemble those in the European part of the USSR, the newspaper points out.

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Drawing by Vasvold Arsenyev

RESPONSE WASHINGTON VOTES IN GENERALS

Under the "programme to promote democracy" put forward by President Reagan, the United States intends to hold regional seminars and conferences on the subject of "free elections". There is nothing new about this idea and similar campaigns have been launched in the past.

Let us look at how, say, the Latin American countries benefited from these seminars?

Last March an election for the constituent assembly was held in El Salvador under the supervision of soldiers. Yet, the choice of president had been made even before the "elections", from which the national patriotic forces were excluded. The "civilian" candidate, A. Magaña, became president. Yet, the real power in the country remains in the hands of the military who enjoy full support from Washington.

IBRD ON THIRD WORLD'S GROWING DEBTS

Washington. The total debt of 101 countries who are members of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development increased last year by 14.5 per cent, and now amounts to 529 thousand million dollars. All in all, the developing countries' debts, as of December 1982, were 700 thousand million dollars. These figures are quoted in a report released by the Bank here.

This huge debt, the authors of the report say, is a result of the severe economic crisis which has gripped the capitalist world, causing stagnation in world trade, an abrupt increase in the bank interest rates and falling prices for raw materials. At present, the prices for some raw materials, exported by these countries, have dropped to their lowest level since World War II.

QUOTATION OF THE DAY

"The American-proposed 'zero option' regarding the missiles to Europe cannot lead to concrete results at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva. Yet, it is results of this very kind that Europe is most in need of at the present time." D. Polze, the Swedish Prime Minister

FACTS and EVENTS

According to statistics from the Finnish Ministry of Labour, 163,400 unemployed, or seven per cent of the entire work force, were registered in Finland last January.

By the end of this year, the growth of the Italian GNP will drop to nil, while capital investments are expected to go down by 2.9 per cent, says the National Scientific Research Institute of Merhat Trends.

By the end of last year, Brazil's projected oil reserves made up 1,755 million barrels, which is 16 per cent more than a year ago. Over the indicated period, the projected reserves of natural gas in Brazil have grown by 30 per cent and stood at 73,300 million cu m at the end of last year.

CRIMINAL AT LARGE

The Hague. The former Gestapo chief in the Netherlands at the time of World War II, Erich Dapner, is living as a free citizen in West Germany.

According to the Dutch ANP news agency, the attempt which the Dutch authorities have been making for years to call Dapner a war criminal responsible for mass murders, to account for his crimes have come up against resistance from the West German authorities. In July and August 1982, Erich Dapner, who now lives near Munich, served as commander of the "Volksberg" "processing" camp, and he bears responsibility for the deportation of 11 thousand Dutch Jews to the Nazi death camps.

As Gestapo chief, he later organized the executions of anti-fascists and members of the "Red" resistance movement. According to the documents at the disposal of the Dutch justice authorities, he gave their time he implemented his expansionist aims.

All the indications are that Tal Aviv will continue to work hard to delay pulling out its troops from Lebanon in order to give itself time to implement its expansionist aims.

THE TRAGEDY OF SON MY

A mother, children and old people placed by side—such is the monument which has been erected on the site where once stood the village of Thuanmyon, in the Son My community, completely annihilated by American soldiers.

This one of the numerous bloody crimes committed by the US military took place on March 10, 1968, when the Americans murdered to cold blood 504 people, including 182 women, 7 of them expectant mothers (the bottom left photo shows one of the victims), and 173 children, 56 of them under five months old.

The crime at Son My was a deliberately planned terrorist operation carried out by the American aggressors in Vietnam.

FACTS and EVENTS

The gold and currency reserves of Great Britain have dropped to their lowest level and are now equivalent to 16.8 thousand million dollars. Two years ago they amounted to nearly 28 thousand million.

By January this year, the population of France was 54,346 thousand.

Tunisian authorities have announced their intention of setting up a major international pool for storing oil products reserves of the Mediterranean countries to be sold in case of an adverse situation in the oil market.

The EEC Headquarters in Brussels has decided to send a group of 20 highly skilled engineers to Japan. The aim of the trip is to study Japan's latest industrial technology and to introduce it with Japanese help in West European industry.

Finland exports to the countries of the socialist community last year increased by 14 per cent, while its exports to the Common Market countries only went up by four per cent.

MORE PRISONERS RELEASED IN EGYPT

Cairo. The judicial authorities to Egypt have ordered the release of another 34 detainees arrested in the autumn of 1981 for alleged complicity in the assassination of President Sadat. They were put behind bars on charges of belonging to the religious and political organization, according to the official version of the incident, was responsible for engineering the coup. Among the released detainees is the father of Haled al-Islambouli who led the group of people who attacked Sadat. To date proceedings have been suspended against most of the political detainees arrested following the assassination.

PROSECUTOR SPEAKS OUT

Caracas. American companies are making massive deliveries of war planes and arms to the military fascist Pinochet regime in convention of a formal ban on military aid to Chile introduced in the United States in 1976, former US district prosecutor Eugene Propper told a press conference here.

South Africa tight-lipped about fire damage

Pretoria. Although a severe fire, which broke out at the South African national nuclear research centre to Palldaba, not far from the South African capital, was soon extinguished by a fire brigade, the authorities have said nothing about the possible damage inflicted by the blaze on people or the environment. A spokesman for the South African nuclear energy



INDIA'S SERIOUS CONCERN

Delhi. Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has accused Pakistan with secretly preparing to produce nuclear weapons. In an interview for "Financial Times" she questioned Pakistan's declared intention to use nuclear

energy for peaceful purposes. She stressed that as far as the Indian government knows Pakistan President Zia-ul-Haq intends to use the nuclear potential for purposes other than advancing the interests of peace.

Science and technology

EXTRA VALVE SAVES FUEL

The Japanese are testing an original automobile engine each cylinder having two intake valves instead of one—and one bigger and the other smaller.

On ignition the smaller valve opens admitting only a minor amount of fuel mixture into the zone of the sparking plug. The bigger valve then opens taking in an increased quantity of fuel mixture. Being injected into a very hot temperature, this poor mixture burns down completely producing environmentally harmless gases. In this way, a 12 per cent saving in petrol is achieved and the engine is made 10 per cent more powerful.

BANDAGE DISPENSED WITH

Formoplast, a new Bulgarian film-forming aerosol preparation eliminates the surgeon's need for bandage. The medication quickly causes the blood to clot, offers reliable protection against bacteria, is resistant to water and gastric juices, and quartz lamp radiation passes through it easily.

OF INTEREST

Secretary—

a man's job?

Specialists believe that before long, women secretaries in the United States will be replaced by men. Some American universities have opened special courses to train the "secretaries of tomorrow" with a higher education. They are trained to operate the most complicated computers and office equipment. It is believed that these gadgets can be mastered by men.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

NEW BLOC IN THE WEST ATLANTIC

In the West Atlantic, a new military bloc, "the regional security and defence force", has been set up. It comprises five small insular states in the Caribbean—Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Dominica and Saint Lucia. Commenting on the essence of this bloc and its purpose, PRAVDA's observer Nikolai Ognev writes that this regional security and defence force amounts to a translation into practice of the Anglo-American idea to set up a police corps in the Caribbean. It is not in the interests of the national defence of the member countries, as no one and nobody has ever threatened them, nor is it for their protection from mythical "external enemies", as its architects maintain, that this bloc has been set up.

Ognev believes that the American and British strategists plan to turn the new military and policing organization into an advanced post to light the regional liberation movements in the Caribbean. At the same time, it will act as a sort of cannon sentry in the vicinity of Cuba and Grenada, two countries whose regimes are not to the liking of the United States. It is hardly accidental that Cuba and Grenada have not been invited to join.

PART OF THE 'STRATEGIC ALLIANCE'

Attempts by Washington to exploit on the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and to expand its military presence in the country are the subject of an article contributed to KHASNAYA ZVEZDA by Georgi Kuvshinov.

In recent months, he notes, more and more Lebanese patriots have taken over the control of the American Air Force. Reports are coming in at the Pentagon's attention to increase the strength of American military presence in Lebanon as a ten thousand people. This makes increasingly clear the purposes of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon prepared and carried out with the participation of the United States. The main purpose of these aims is to create favourable conditions for further Israeli expansion and for the setting up of a powerful base for the American rapid deployment force on Lebanese soil.

IN LINE WITH AN OLD SCENARIO

Commenting in the NEW TIMES magazine on the seven-day joint war games involving American troops and the Panamanian national guard, code-named "Kindle Liberty-83", A. Boryshev focuses on three aspects of the manoeuvres.

First, he points out, the games were held only some 400 to 500 kilometres away from Nicaragua, and almost immediately after the provocative American bombardment "Big Pine" game held right on the borders of Nicaragua. Does this not look of exercising military operations to surround the revolutionary country on land and at sea?

Second, nearly 9,000 American servicemen took part in the games, while Panama fielded just one 800-strong battalion, so these were essentially American war games, though under the cover of two flags. Does not such "muscle flexing" amount to a rehearsal of the scenario already tried out in Santo Domingo back in 1965?

Finally, the games were held in an area used by the Panamanian for its war effort against El Salvador which is a breach of international law and of the treaty guaranteeing the neutrality of the Panama Canal.

Both games were aimed against Nicaragua. At the same time they were used to intimidate the insurgents in El Salvador and the other Central American peoples now joining the drive for freedom and democracy, Boryshev stresses.

USSR-FRANCE: MAJOR DIALOGUE

Analysing the Soviet-French talks in Moscow, G. Denichenko examines in ZVEZDA the contribution which the two countries could make towards improving the international situation. He points out that concerted action by the two countries to promote détente and peace, particularly in Europe, has yielded good results in the past. In the Soviet Union, great importance is still attached to political dialogue with France. Claude Cheysson's visit to this country is convincing evidence that France is in favour of a contribution of the dialogue. It would appear, therefore, that the realization is crystallizing in Western Europe that states with different social systems should pool their efforts to give their peoples a peaceful future.

In Denichenko's view, the Soviet-French dialogue could play an increasing role in helping to prevent war and to consolidate the atmosphere of trust and security in Europe.

Solar energy motorbike

American engineer Jeff Downe has invented a motorbike running on solar energy. With an electric engine, powered by 80 solar batteries, it is capable of covering between 80 to 100 kilometres at speeds of up to 80 kph. Several hours in the sun is enough to charge the accumulator.

Traditions die hard in the English town of Alton. Every year, since 1445, housewives in the city have been racing back other carrying pans on a trolley, trying to get to the finish line as fast as possible. The prize is a small silver cup. This year, the winner was Linda Carey.



Photo UPI-YASS

Round the Soviet Union

● THE DEPTH OF A SUPER-DEEP BOREHOLE, BRING DRILLED IN THE KOLA PENINSULA, HAS SURPASSED 11 KILOMETRES. The aim is to drill a borehole 15 km deep. The Soviet Union's second super-deep borehole is being made in the Transcaucasian Republic of Azerbaijan. Researchers, who investigate the structure of the Earth's crust with the help of such deep boreholes, have made several major discoveries.

● PEAT BOGS OCCUPY 2.5 MILLION HECTARES OF LAND IN BYELORUSSIA—MORE THAN 12 PER CENT OF ITS TERRITORY. Peat is used mainly in agriculture and the power industry. Nearly 0.5 million tonnes of this fuel are burnt every year. Researchers have worked out ways of using peat to make liquid fuel, wax and granulated fertilizer.

● ONE OF CENTRAL ASIA'S LARGEST COAL MINES HAS COME INTO OPERATION IN THE SOVIET REPUBLIC OF KIRGHIZIA. Coal is deposited there in thick layers at a depth of only 10-15 metres. The new colliery will produce more than 0.5 million tonnes of fuel annually.

● SOVIET ENGINEERS HAVE DESIGNED AN INSTALLATION PRODUCING FERTILIZER FROM THE SMOKE OF THERMAL POWER PLANTS. The installation extracts from smoke and neutralizes harmful compounds of nitrogen and sulphur—the most common pollutants. A valuable composite mineral fertilizer is produced after the addition of small amounts of ash.

● ONE OUT OF THE THREE SOVIET CITIZENS BECAME A VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTOR TO THE SOVIET PEACE FUND. The fund was set up by Soviet public organizations in 1961, in accordance with its charter and with the desire of its contributors, this organization helps peace-lovers, backs organizations and movements opposed to the arms race and favouring the prohibition of all types of weapons of mass annihilation.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

METAL PROTECTION PROGRAMME

The growth in the amount of metal in industry and changes in the way it is used are accompanied by a growth in direct and indirect losses from corrosion, writes EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA. Scientists estimate that in this country more than 15 million tonnes of iron and steel melt away every year.

At present, the amount of iron and steel in the national economy is nearly a thousand million tonnes. There is intensive growth in those industries in which machines are subjected to the aggressive action of the industrial environment—for instance, the chemical, petrochemical, pulp-and-paper and other industries.

In this country we have devised a comprehensive technological programme to solve the problems of loss of metal, and a national anti-corrosion service has been set up.

All the goals outlined in this programme have been incorporated in the annual and five-year plans.

These goals include devising technologies for electroplating, and painting and varnishing metal surfaces, which are also covered with powder and polymer coatings and provided with electrochemical protection from corrosion.

It is intended to introduce each of these tasks in the current three-year plan period of 1961-63. At the end of the period it is expected that these measures will result in a reduction of losses due to corrosion amounting to 100 million rubles.

AMATEUR DRAMA IN THE UKRAINE



A scene from a new show at the amateur theatre in Lvov called "Pushkin's Lyrical Poems".

One would be hard pressed to imagine a theatre hall bristling with 500 plays, but believe it or not, one such hall now exists. It belongs to the Ukrainian amateur people's theatres whose productions are to be seen on the stages of 274 amateur clubs. Last season, for instance, 1,500,000 people saw these plays.

The little people's theatre means that a pinnacle of art has been reached in amateur dramatic art. Only very skilled groups, firm favourites with the audience, are awarded the title. Most of such companies work in small towns and villages lacking professional professional theatres.

Amateur drama in the Ukraine features various genres—apart from drama troupes proper there are opera and ballet companies, as well as operetta and miniature theatres boasting of varied repertoires. The drama theatres mount productions of works by Ukrainian, Russian and foreign classical playwrights, such as Franko, Lesya Ukrainka, Gogol, Ostrovsky, Chakovsky, Shakespeare, Goldoni, Molière and Schiller... They also go in for a lot of modern Soviet drama and literary works. Not infrequently it is amateur theatres that "discover" young aspiring authors.



Children backstage of the Buratino puppet theatre at the House of Culture of the Novokramatorsk engineering plant, to the Ukrainian town of Kramatorsk.

SEARCH FOR MINERALS IN THE NORTH

Geologists in the Transbaikalian Area have completed prospecting of the Udokan deposit, where a mining and processing combine is to be built.

Geologically, the northern Transbaikalian Area is unique for

its plentiful resources of coal, iron and some other metals located over a rather small area. In the past two years thousands of metres have been drilled deep underground to sound out local mineral pockets.

PIPELINE CROSSES THE OB

The East-West gas pipeline running between Urengoi, Poma and Uzhgorod has been laid across the Ob River, over two kilometres wide. This complex engineering operation was accomplished nearly twenty-four hours ahead of schedule.

The engineers and construction workers building the pipeline have negotiated nearly six hundred rivers, the biggest of which was the Ob. However, such obstacles have not disrupted the overall tempo of the work.

Versatile excavator

The first excavator of a new series has rolled off the conveyor of the Leningrad excavator works. Four compact hydro-motors linked by reducers directly with the wheels ensure its manoeuvrability. The new excavator does away with the need for many metal-consuming assemblies: compared with the earlier model the new one is 1.5 tonne lighter, has a longer service life and performs dozens of different operations.

other power sources. The expected lifetime of such a station is 30 years. It has been estimated that 5-10,000 MW station would pay off within two to three years of its operation.

A joint effort by the industrialized nations could help a lot put this spectacular venture through, the paper points out, while the very fact of the construction of solar power stations in space would foster the industrial development of outer space and notably contribute to solving this planet's energy problem.

MATHS TO HELP TRANSPLANTOLOGISTS

The asthenia and technological revolution has made transplantology into a powerful area of surgery, argues Vladimir Kovanzov, Academician of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, in the *TEKHNIKA-MOLODOY* magazine. The transplantology effort is being supplemented by two other methods—regeneration and the creation of artificial organs, he points out. What we are attempting to achieve is to set up an inexhaustible reserve of "spare" for every patient. Fairly soon, wider use will be made of the artificial liver, pancreas, heart and other organs.

In the near future transplantologists will have resort to mathematical analysis of the genetics of these capabilities, enabling us to forecast the course and outcome in every individual case of transplantation.

Research in this direction is central to effective transplantology of the marrow necessary to treat advanced radiation sickness. At the present time many laboratories are already working on organ conservation, on hardening cells of physics and biology, involving problems of deep freezing and preventing intracellular water crystallization, the Academician says.

Arctic Route to operate all-the-year-round

An experimental voyage made by ships belonging to the Far Eastern Shipping Company in winter conditions to the shores of the Chukchi Peninsula has been successfully completed.

The "Admiral Makarov" ice-breaker set out from Vladivostok, while the motorvessel "Vasily Fedoseyev" fastened to meet it from the port of Vainut with a cargo of lumber and machines on board. The two ships met up in the La Perouse Strait and continued their joint voyage northwards with many uncertainties ahead. They had to make their way through pack ice and severe storms in the Okhotsk and Bering seas in order to deliver their cargoes to the ports of Evgeniyevsk and Provideniya on the Chukchi Peninsula. That the two ships completed their mission adds yet another link to the North Arctic Route, a vital national transport artery.

In the future, the Baitel-Amu Railway in Siberia will give a tremendous boost to the development of productive forces in the Far East, increasing the load on the Arctic Ocean.

The North Arctic Route will require base ports at either end. It is quite possible that in the east such ports will be Evgeniyevsk and Provideniya.

Places to visit

DOSTOEVSKY'S BIRTHPLACE

Moscow and Dostoevsky is not an association that immediately springs to mind, for this writer's life and work are indissolubly bound up with the town of St Petersburg. But, nevertheless, in the beginning of his childhood and youth in a staff flat (first in the right and then in the left wing) of the house belonging to the Merzhansky Hospital of the peer on Bazhedomskaya Street. His father, Mikhail Dostoevsky, a retired military staff surgeon, worked at the hospital. And it was here that seven of his children were born, one of whom was destined for immortality.

A century later the following notice was to appear on the door of the building: "The House-Museum of F. M. Dostoevsky". This was the first museum to be set up in memory of the writer.

Until recently, it has been closed in view of restoration work. Members of the museum staff have restored the flat to its original look working from



old designs as well as from mentions of the building to be found in "Recollections", by the writer's younger brother, A. M. Dostoevsky.

The Russian way of life, a Russian interior, the Russian spirit—this what emanates above all from this more than modest flat where, of an even-

ing, the Dostoevsky family, a very traditional household, would listen while Karamzin's "History of the Russian State" was read aloud to them and would discuss the latest news in the war with Napoleon. Karamzin's history was later to occupy a permanent place on the writer's desk.



The nursery and Dostoevsky's desk with original books belonging to the writer.

MOSCOW'S RAINBOW-COLOURED STREETS

This summer, Pushkin Street in Moscow will be given an unusual white surface made out of an alloy of sand and slag called glass ceramic. Manufactured by the Tula experimental glass factory, the surface in fact comes in all colours.

To make glass ceramic into suitable surface for roads, it is mixed with mineral additives and bitumen. This is a costly and

labour-consuming method but it is worthwhile. For if traffic lanes are made of different colours and the pedestrian crossings are painted brightly, road safety should be increased. Moreover no dividing lines will be necessary. And a white road surface means a saving

in electricity due to lower lighting-up time. Traffic officers comment that the break path will become shorter and drivers less tired. Besides, the glass ceramic is three times as strong as road surfaces of present use.

ENAMELS FROM ROSTOV VELIKY

An exhibition, called "Rostov Enamel", is now to be seen at the Moscow All-Union Museum of Decorative, Applied and Folk Art.

Rostov enamels have long enjoyed worldwide recognition. Enamel painting originated in Russia to the first quarter of the 18th century. It was a complex and hard trade requiring great mastery. First, a basic background layer of enamel was laid to an annealed plate, which was later baked in special furnaces, and then painted over using paints dissolved by organic oil. The enamel items in the workshops of the Rostov Veliky Kremlin, where the trade originated in the second half of the 18th century, won special renown.

Originally the enamel craftsmen used only religious subjects for their miniatures but secular themes became predominant from the mid-19th century.

On display at the exhibition are works by renowned masters of the past as well as those by our contemporaries, artists from the Rostov factory. The items on view include brooches, rings, earrings, brooches decorated with enamel, portraits of painters, scientists and historic personalities of Russia, landscape lyrical compositions, glimpses of the everyday life of the past as well as legendary subjects and flowery ornamentation gracing small boxes, lockets and decorative plates.



N. Kozlov, "Rostov Enamel" 1967.

VIEWPOINT

ROBOT TECHNOLOGY IN THE USSR

Leonid KORENEV

There are 13,000 robots in operation in this country. In 1965, their numbers are expected to rise to at least 50 thousand, and there are even more optimistic predictions.

One of the paradoxes of present-day automation is that a growing number of people are reduced to doing routine jobs. "EKO", a magazine published in Siberia, writes "automatization today has brought about a situation when the machine does everything itself with no only carrying and lifting. The sterility of man-made operations is both evident and humiliating. In order to stop himself becoming another robot, man needs to create a completely robot-operated industry".

Thus, the development of automation has created peculiar niches for robots to places where man likes to work.

Even though the Brig-10 robot presents visitors with flowers and memento badges of the exhibition of scientific and technological endeavour in Moscow, just like the predecessors did, this is a temporary occupation. Once the exhibition is over, it will be returned to the factory in the Ukraine to join its five siblings in making parts for wheels. Nor did the MARI-1 robot, invented by the Moscow robot designer Valery Vasyanin, spend a long time treating the designer's friends with tea from a samovar; very soon it was sent to a farm where it learnt to clean floors, make fodder and vaccinate cattle.

There are two main trends in the use of robots in this country. In the first place, they are used in areas where "mechanical people" are indispensable on humanitarian grounds, i.e., on jobs which are arduous and dangerous for human health. Priority is given to these jobs even to cases when the immediate economic effect of utilizing robots in adjacent areas would be greater, yet the social principle prevails.

The second trend comprises routine operations where conditions are ripe for a group use of robots, which makes their servicing cheaper.

I would like to stress that in this country robots do not act as a threat to people on the shop floor, as the shortage of labour resources is universal throughout the USSR, with hundreds of thousands of new jobs opening up every year.

On average, every robot replaces two or three people, releasing the latter for more satisfying jobs. It is believed that in this eleventh five-year plan period, robots will release 100-120 thousand people for other jobs.

At the same time the robots have shown their cost efficiency: each of them brings in a profit of between eight and twelve thousand rubles a year.

The manual and technological workers replaced by robots are given the opportunity of learning a more interesting trade at their factories: they are usually provided with a choice of several jobs they could be trained for without suffering any loss in pay.

between the building organs of the USSR and the DRA correct for more than 70% of the output of the refineries and factories.

In addition, the USSR substantial assistance to Afghanistan in fostering the petroleum — the basic raw material of the modern industry. Soviet cooperation projects account more than 50 per cent of public power facilities. Supplies of Afghan goods to Soviet Union grow from year to year. This stimulates the development of individual branches of the DRA's economy bringing in considerable income to the republic. In part, the delivery of natural gas to the USSR alone secured 40 per cent of currency to Afghanistan's treasury.